JOSEPH M. FREEDMAN
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
LYCEUM THEATRE BUILDING
MEMPHIS, TENN.

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Miss Frances Levine,
70 Somers St.,
Brooklyn,
N. Y.

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April 7th 1917.

Darling Frances:-

Both your welcome letters of the 3rd & 4th received & believe me, I sure was glad to get them. Somehow or other, I was blue all week, & when I got those letters, they kind of cheered me up.

I was blue because I knew I wouldn't have anywhere to go for Seder & when Friday night came I was eating at the same old restaurant, thinking of home & you and everybody & everything. Oh, how I longed to be home. I was so blue that I thought that I was an outcast, but immediately pulled out some of your letters & read & re-read them to assure me that I was not forgotten. I hope by next year, I'll have someplace at least to go in for Seder.

I'm so sorry you were unable to go over to my folks for Seder, but anyhow, I hope you enjoyed yourself at your uncle's. How did you find it? Did you like it? I can just picture my boots sitting by my side while I make one. Did you know I could make a Seder? Believe me I can & I believe I know how to perform everything in every religious ceremony. Don't you wish the day came already when we could

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invite our friends & members of the family, eh, Toots?

There is only one thing that worries me, & that is the war situation. This is a small town, you see, & when the call comes, why, I'll be approached. Fellows of my age, unmarried, will be drafted. Honey, I just get to realize what a man Wilson is. The enthusiasm over his actions are nothing compared to what's going on here. Why, when the folks go to church they pray for Wilson. I sure do believe he's the greatest man we ever had for president. Did you read his proclamation? It specifies who & who shall not be drafted at first & says that the married men will be exempt. I was just thinking how near I would have been to exemption. I suppose now you'll probably see me in a uniform. How would you like that? I suppose its the hand of Fate that decided we shouldn't marry in N. J. Do you remember how I forgot that you had said "yes", & the next day we went to get married & I forgot your answer & thought you ~~said~~ you "might". Well, sweetheart mine, we'll have to let it go at that. If I am forced or drafted, I'll have to go, otherwise I'll keep out as long as I can. Anyhow, don't you worry about it.

Yes, I'll have to wait & see if I can come home this summer. I'm glad you understand ~~yo~~ my position & therefore, will act

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accordingly. If there is any chance at all, I'll come home. I want to tell you something funny. I told my old professor, the bachelor, what you wrote & of course, complimented me upon having such a lovely sweetheart. Another man was there & not knowing from where I came said "Mr. Freedman, I am confident if you went to New York to practice, you'd be successful." I didn't say anything, but I was wondering if what he said was true. As I told you some time ago, I have a good chance here & the only time I will practice in New York, is when I'm given a dog-gone good proposition. Here is a stranger, who knows nothing of me personally, tells me that. Perhaps he spoke through recommendation. If so, why I see my labor producing fruit. I sure did feel good over that remark.

You didn't write me of her place in which to do some real pharmacy. I hope it is as you say, that she will have an opportunity to learn a good deal. I'm confident that they'll help her there as I know they all think a good deal of her. Perhaps if they do help her along, she'll get back her old fondness for the profession, as she sure was despondent at times. She sure is some good kid.

I had to smile when I read of your thoughts about artists. They sure are

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hard plugging people, aren't they? Pardon the expression, Foots. I haven't much use for artists, though I just love a good painting. This is an age where one must produce. I am not one of those, but still those who produce must know where & where. There's where I come in. The camera has become a brain in itself. The motion pictures are sufficient to supply the needs of man, to show him what he can't see with his own eyes, so why sit & dope. Why don't they study or spend their time with good books? Why don't they take up a course so they won't be a burden upon the community. I get excited when I begin on that subject, so will stop writing about them. Anyway, I sure do hope you enjoyed yourself & learned something.

My eyes are still giving me a little trouble, but not to any extent. I'm wearing my glasses more than I used to, & owing to the softening effect on the light I don't suffer so much when I wear them. I haven't any more cold in my head. I'm feeling pretty good except for my "lamps". Well, Foots, there's nothing new in my uncle's case. I expect things will be "dishing" about the 12th of this month.

Well, precious mine, I hope you will like this fat letter. Don't forget that

I, too, want big, fat letters.

So, I'll close now with all my love & kisses to my own darling Frances,

Lovingly,

Joe.